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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

### Inspection Report

#### Minerals Regulatory Program

August 14, 2006

Supervisor 10274

**Mine Name:** Cotton Thomas Quarry  
**Operator Name:** Star Stone Quarries, Inc

**Permit number:** M0030024  
**Inspection Date:** August 8, 2006  
**Time:** 8:30 am

**Inspector(s):** Lynn Kunzler, DOGM  
**Other Participants:** Lon Thomas, Tyler Thomas, Vic Jackson, Rex Larsen, Tiffany Larsen  
**Mine Status:** Active

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Concurrent Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Soils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Purpose of Inspection:

Inspection was performed at the request of the operator to inspect past reclamation to determine if revegetation success standards were achieved.

#### Inspection Summary:

1. This site was active at the time of the inspection. The Division had recently approved a permit amendment to add the Chocolate Charcoal Pit. Work on this area has already begun with hand collection of surface stone. Construction of the access road began yesterday.
8. While the amendment for the Chocolate Charcoal Pit did not include a request for salvaging topsoil, this should have been done. Even though there was significant vegetation (approximately 40% ground cover), most of it was rooted in the cracks between the rocks. Efforts to salvage the minute amount of soil material would be nearly impossible.
9. Five areas were requested to be inspected for reclamation success and full bond release of the areas. The Camp area, the original access road, the South Granite pit, the West Granite Pit and the East Granite Pit. The camp area was proposed for use as a staging area for the post mining land use. The only remaining item from the past mining activity is a damaged trailer house. The original access road had mixed results. The regrading was great, with the area being left in a roughened condition. There were no signs of erosion in instability. Vegetation on the first 1/4 of the length and a couple of small (50-100 segments) was satisfactory. However, the majority of the road was infested with cheatgrass and thistle (desirable vegetation was very sparse). The South Granite pit had an average of 65% ground cover. The surrounding area had a ground cover of 75%. The West Granite had a vegetation cover of 46%. The surrounding area had a



vegetation cover of 65%. The East Granite area had a vegetation cover of 40%. The surrounding area had a vegetation cover of 50%.

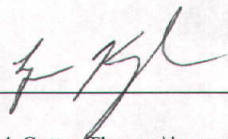
**Conclusions and Recommendations:**

- 1 & 8. The operator will request a variance to not salvaging soil for the Chocolate Charcoal Pit when the Plan revision is submitted. This variance should be approved.
9. Cleanup of the camp area needs to be completed before this area is released. The operator will spot spray the thistle this week (in rosette stage) and will apply Plateau in the fall to control the cheat grass. The areas dominated by weeds will be reseeded. Vegetation establishment of the three granite pits is considered successful and has exceeded the 70% revegetation success standard. It is recommended that these three sites be released.

Continue to monitor the site when in the area.

Photos were taken to document site conditions.

Inspector's Signature



Date: August 11, 2006

LK:pb

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